



Highland Huskies

August 12, 2016

Dear Highland Families:

I hope you have had a wonderful summer! We have been busy getting the school ready for your return. Enclosed please find a welcome letter from your classroom teacher. Please note that there are no supply lists included, students are not required to bring any items other than a backpack, a folder, a healthy snack and lunch. The first day of school is Thursday, September 1st, which will be a full day of school with lunch served in the cafeteria. The first bell rings in the morning at 8:55 am, and school hours are officially 9:05 am – 3:25 pm.

We have some important events planned for September. Be sure to mark your calendars!!

Monday, September 5th, 2016: Labor Day, No School

Thursday, September 15th, 2016: Open House @5:30

Tuesday, September 20th, 2016: Highland Welcome Back Picnic

(Rain Date: September 23rd)

Wednesday, September 21st, 2016: Half Day Release

One of the most important things we have done this summer is to hire some new adults who will be joining the Highland Park School Family:

We welcome in fifth grade, Miss Kelsey Palazzo. She is a beginning teacher from Eastern Connecticut State University, who did her student teaching in Marlborough. Her supervisor at Eastern says that Kelsey is a one of a kind teacher who is motivated to learn and excel. We are very excited to have her join the fifth grade team.

We have a brand new, full time Family Resource Coordinator. Ms. Jill Morey is joining our staff after many years of being a successful Family Resource Coordinator in Vernon. Highland Park is fortunate to have someone with her expertise take on this new full-time role.

In Special Education, we are happy to announce that we have a half-time teacher joining Mrs. Ochnio. She will share her time between us and Buckley, and she is very excited to work with teachers and students across grade levels.

We are currently working on filling our final two positions. Our building substitute position was vacated by Ms. Olivia Hebert. We wish her well as she heads off to grad school in Florida. We also wish Mr. Kavanaugh the best of luck as he explores new opportunities in his home state of Rhode Island.

Please be sure to join us on Wednesday, August 31st for our Meet & Greet for all Highland Park families from 3:00 - 4:00pm. Come and meet our HPS staff, other parents and your children's classmates.

For those students who are eligible for transportation, the bus information will be available online in late August on the district website, www.mpspride.org. Click on the "Transportation" tab and follow the links to find all of the bus routes for Highland Park Elementary School. Please familiarize your child with his/her bus stop prior to the first day of school.

If you have questions or concerns that arise at any time, please do not hesitate to give me a call, send me an e-mail, or stop by the main office.

Sincerely,
Dr. Joanna Ali
Dr. Joanna Ali
Principal